



Dear Congregation of FUMC member & friend,

The theme throughout the year has been “Generosity.” In looking up the definition of generosity this bubbled to the top: *“Generous is a word we may use to describe people who have positively impacted our lives. Although generosity is often associated with monetary gifts, generosity extends well beyond money and includes small acts of kindness and compassion from a loved one, friend or even a stranger.”* (Mission Australia -- <https://shorturl.at/A9Cdu>) This definition fits perfectly with what it means to live in the way of Christ, for Christ has made us to live, love, and give generously as a response to the lavish, prodigal love of our God.

As we have been sharing this month in worship, we are each invited to live this way, and our Mission Statement lays this out clearly. When we ask God to use us for God’s work, generosity is an end product.

On Sunday, **October 5, 2025**, our members and constituents will have the opportunity to return Estimates of Giving cards, as a way of saying to God, “You supply all I need, and in response to Your generosity, I seek to give these gifts of time, talent, and treasure as way for Your Kingdom to come on earth as in heaven.” We hope that you will be a part of this communal response of love and support for the community and the church.

We ask folks to fill out and hand in an estimate of giving card for a few reasons. First, we base our ministry budget on these estimates, so it allows us to plan accurately for 2026. Second, the act of filling out a card is a sacred act. We pledge toward God’s work and are reminded we are a part of God’s transformative work in the world. Third, when each of us do this and bring them forward as an act of worship, it is a witness to the work God has in store for us in 2025. All of this is a witness and sign of faith to each other and to God.

We know that some might be struggling financially and may not be in a position to give as much right now. We understand, and hope that you’ll be able to give something toward God’s work. More importantly, if there is any way we can be of support to you—praying with you, praying for you, talking with you, or providing other assistance—please contact the pastors or the church office.

Enclosed you will find an estimate of giving card. Please pray about your giving for next year and fill out the front of the card. Then bring the card with you on October 5. We will collect them as part of worship. If you are unable to be with us Sunday, we invite you to return the card to the church office during office hours or bring it to worship the following Sunday.

There is a portion on the card that invites you to indicate how you desire to give to the church, including using bank drafts and credit cards. Both of these are great ways to give, and if you want to give on a regular basis AND save the church on processing fees, bank drafts are a great way to go. We would be

happy to send you more information about this easy and supportive way to give toward the work of the church.

Thank you for all you do to further the mission and work of Fredericksburg UMC. Despite the many changes that we have been through in the last few years, you have been faithful and God has been faithful. Your generosity continues to bless the world, as we continue to fulfill God's Mission for us to FOLLOW Christ, SEEK others in our community, SERVE their needs, GROW in the love of Christ, and CONNECT with each other.

In Christ,

Tim Tate
Pastor

Emilee Ogden
Pastor

Bill Hession
Chair, Generosity